

# **OFFICIAL**

## **CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 8, 2009**

### **MINUTES**

**The regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, January 8, 2009, at the Cumberland High School Auditorium, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, RI, at 7:32 p.m., was called to order by Chairman Donald J. Costa, with the following present:**

**Donald J. Costa, Chair, Earl T. Wood, Vice Chair, Ryan W. Pearson, Clerk, Lisa Beaulieu, Rosa Crowley, Brian Kelly, Daniel Pedro**

**Also Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent; Susan C. Carney, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent; Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by committee members.**

**II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. Kelly, and a second by Mr. Pearson, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the agenda.**

**III. Recognition of Achievements - The Superintendent reported that she had certificates recognizing the employees, faculty, students and parents from the schools that participated in the Happy Basket Program. She had a letter from John Johnson, head of the program, stating the donations saved the program. Dr. Morelle read the list of names and thanked them.**

**IV. Chairperson's Report - The Chair reminded everyone of the meeting with the Town Council Monday at 7 p.m., in the High School Library.**

**V. Superintendent's Report on Teaching & Learning – Due to technical problems, the Superintendent requested this be moved to later on the agenda. There were no objections.**

**VI. Student Government Report – Patsy Newman and Emily Gosinelli reported there were 120 turkeys donated for the holidays and that students and faculty also purchased gifts for their adopted families. In addition to the Happy Basket Program, they made care packages for the Freshmen. The Winter Ball will be January 30th at Wright's Farm. They are also having an upcoming Daffodil sale.**

**VII. Comments from the Public – None.**

**VIII. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Orientation Workshop: 12/1/08**

**B. Special Meeting: 12/8/08**

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**C. Orientation Workshop: 12/8/08**

**D. Open Session: 12/11/08**

**E. Open Session: 12/18/08**

**Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve all the minutes. Mr. Pearson provided a second. Mr. Wood requested tabling the December 8th Orientation Workshop minutes. The motion and second were WITHDRAWN.**

**On a motion by Mr. Kelly, and a second by Mr. Pedro, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the following minutes: Orientation Workshop 12/1/08; Special Meeting 12/8/08, Open Session 12/11/08; Open Session 12/18/08.**

**On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Ms. Beaulieu, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE tabling the Orientation Workshop minutes of 12/8/08.**

**IX. Approval of Minutes – On a motion by Mr. Kelly, and a second by Mr. Pearson, it was VOTED 6-1 TO APPROVE the following minutes, with Ms. Crowley voting against.**

**A. Executive Session: 12/8/08**

**B. Executive Session: 12/11/08**

**C. Executive Session: 12/18/08**

**VI. Superintendent's Report on Teaching & Learning – The Superintendent highlighted topics of relevance in the Assessment for Learning, which included reasons, focus, place in time, primary outlines, typical services, teachers' and students' roles, primary motivators. She spoke on the impact assessment has in the classroom, noting that the NECAP is taken in the year after the curriculum has been implemented. She shared an AIMS chart. They will be getting the NECAP scores soon.**

#### **X. Reports of Standing Committees**

**A. Payment of Bills – On a motion by Mr. Kelly, and a second by Mr. Pearson, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE payment of bills in the amount of \$767,285.31.**

**B. Finance - Mr. Kelly reported he has spoken to Tom Ward at the Valley Breeze regarding a more cost effective way to advertise for the school department and still meet the law. He requested that be added to the February agenda. He also would like to discuss the energy savings plan.**

**C. Personnel – Mr. Pearson reported they will meet on the 16th at 6:30 on recruitment.**

**D. Property – Mr. Wood reported they will be meeting before the meeting with the Town Council Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room regarding a five year plan and the cleanliness of schools.**

**E. Curriculum – Ms. Beaulieu reported there will be a meeting**

**Tuesday, January 13th at 6:30 p.m. on the Key Works self-study.**

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**F. Rules and Regulations – Mr. Pedro reported meeting on Tuesday with Mr. Kane of the Collaborative.**

**XI. Personnel Recommendations**

**A. On a motion by Mr. Pearson, and a second by Mr. Kelly, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Cristen Coppolino, Reading Specialist at Community School, effective 1/9/2009 (FTE: 1.0; Step 5; Lane: MA; Co-pay 11%; budgeted).**

**B. On a motion by Ms. Beaulieu, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Cheri Sacco, Principal at Community School, effective 1/19/2009 per contractual agreement (budgeted). The Committee welcomed Ms. Sacco.**

**XII. New Business**

**A. Home School Instruction Requests for 2008-09 School Year – On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the request.**

**B. Discussion of Reorganization of School Committee Sub-Committees – The Chair explained he made subcommittee assignments where he thought people would like to serve, but if**

someone wishes to change subcommittee, he would entertain their request. Individuals can contact the Chair and this will be put on the next agenda.

### **XIII. Comments from the Public – None.**

**XIV. School Committee Comments (School Committee Liaison Reports) – Mr. Pedro reported he had not met with the parent group yet. Ms. Beaulieu reported Cumberland Hill had an announcement that two teams will be participating at the Lego League using Lego robots. She will be coaching a team of middle school students from Cumberland and Lincoln on Saturday at Roger Williams University. Mr. Kelly will be meeting with Community and North Cumberland Middle School parents later in the month. Mr. Wood reported Cumberland Hill PTO will meet next week. The 3.5 Building Committee met last night to try to close out the project; there will be one more meeting. He reported the ramp at Cumberland was to be re-tiled but the materials that were delivered were discolored as well. A basketball hoop at Ashton will be inspected by the factory representative and the heat problem at Ashton is a matter of cool air being blown in when a room reaches a certain temperature.**

### **XV. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Vote on Items Referred to in RIGL 42-46-5**

#### **A. Personnel Matters – Exception (1)**

##### **1) CTA/ICSE**

**B. Negotiations/Litigation – Exception (2)**

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**1) CTA/ICSE**

**2) Potential Litigation**

**Not needed.**

**XVI. Adjournment – On a motion by Mr. Pearson, and a second by Mr. Kelly, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning the meeting at 8:15 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Shirley Harris**

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**Recording Secretary**

**Approved by the school committee**

**February 12, 2009**